

legislation is necessary because of the immense cost piled onto the American economy by Federal bureaucrats. This bill establishes requirements for regulators to use risk assessment and cost-benefit analysis in creating the rules we live under. It requires development of peer review for regulations. It subjects decisions of agencies to judicial review. It requires the President to set regulatory priorities. It is a necessary step that we must take to free the American economy from burdensome regulations, but we have the opportunity to do better * * * to give small business the power to fight the bureaucrats on their own.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation will do the most for the small businesses that can afford new regulations the least. H.R. 1022 would help small business by allowing these companies to direct their scarce resources toward achieving the maximum environmental cleanup for the least cost. Small businesses are often more severely impacted by costly regulation than large businesses because the cost to comply with these regulations represents a larger percentage of the small business's operating expenses and profits. If a Federal agency is required to perform a risk analysis on regulations that impacts small business, small business is likely to be better able to afford to comply with the resulting rule. H.R. 1022 will result in fewer small business being financially bankrupted because of excessively expensive regulations.

The wood preserving industry, which is very important to my district, is made up mainly of small businesses. This industry could have been devastated in 1991 when the Environmental Protection Agency issued a hazardous waste listings regulation, under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. The tools of risk assessment and cost-benefit analysis were not applied in this act. The budget for the 1992 fiscal year stated that this RCRA regulation would have cost the wood preserving industry \$5.7 trillion per premature death averted. This huge monetary amount would prevent one cancer case every 2.9 million years. That's one death every 2.9 million years. The regulation's costs, as noted in the 1992 budget, were so outrageous that the wood preserving industry was able to gain congressional support for a request that EPA work with the industry to craft a more cost-effective regulation. The negotiations resulted in a cost-effective regulation that was protective of human health and the environment. The wood preserving industry, with its' heavy small business component, was able to stay alive and facilities were able to comply with the regulation.

Mr. Speaker, we cannot expect every industry to be able to rally support to save themselves from such bureaucratic nightmares. Mr. Speaker we should not expect every industry to be able to rally support to save themselves from such bureaucratic night-

mares. We must give them the power to take on Federal regulators head on. We can do that if we approve the Barton amendment later today. The Barton amendment would give the average citizen the right to challenge Federal regulations themselves. It would force bureaucrats to review existing rules for their cost-benefit. Mr. Speaker, industries should not have to come to us to save them from overzealous bureaucrats. By passing the Barton amendment, we give individual American citizens the power to fight for themselves.

The main principle of our regulatory reform system must be common sense. The Risk Assessment and Cost-Benefit Act will force Federal bureaucrats to focus their regulatory efforts on what will benefit Americans the most. It will prevent Federal bureaucrats from forcing industries to spend millions, even billions of dollars without proving the responsibility of that action. It will force Federal bureaucrats to give cost-effective solutions the same consideration and the same weight as the extravagant ideal solutions they pursue today. This we must do. But, Mr. Speaker, I also hope my colleagues will realize that this is but a first step. We must also give our citizens the power to fight the bureaucrats themselves. I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on the Barton Amendment and empower individual Americans.

CONTRACT WITH AMERICA TOUGH ON CHILDREN AND ELDERLY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 1995, the gentleman from California [Mr. MILLER] is recognized during morning business for 5 minutes.

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, there was great celebration by the Republicans on the 50th day of their Contract With America of the first 100 days that they had programmed to rewrite the Federal Government and its rules and regulations. Yet on the 51st and 52d day we found out what this contract was really about. It was a contract on the elderly and the children of this Nation, between the actions taken in the Committee on Education and Labor and the actions taken in the Committee on Appropriations.

We saw in the Committee on Appropriations in the rescissions bill to cut money out of existing programs, 63 percent of all the cuts affect low-income Americans, children, and seniors. These same people are only responsible for 12 percent of the discretionary spending within the budget. That means three times the amount is being cut from these programs for elderly housing, to help elderly people pay their heating bills, and nutrition for our children, and the most vulnerable, and that is pregnant women at risk of giving birth to a low-birth-weight child and a newborn child born at low birth weight that needs nutritional help at

the first moments of life. That is what the Contract With America has become, a Contract on America's children.

In this morning's Washington Post, Louis Sullivan, the Secretary of HHS under President Bush, writes an article about the importance of the Women, Infants, and Children Program. This is a program that has now been in existence 20 years. It may be the most successful program in the world in combatting low-birth-weight babies, premature births, and the results that flow from those two events.

This has been our insurance policy to protect the taxpayers against the hundreds of thousands of dollars that a premature birth of a low-birth-weight baby will cost those taxpayers in the first few days and weeks of life. This has been a program that has reduced the incidence of low-birth-weight births by some 33 percent among the participants in that program. This is a program that does that for about \$1.50 a day, and this is a program that the Gingrich Republicans and the Committee on Education and Labor lockstep voted to cut the money from last week.

So as we move into the second 50 days of the contract, we see a much meaner, a much more callous approach to the children of this Nation. What is at stake here? What is at stake here is the ability of thousands of women who have been medically certified to be at nutritional risk and at risk of giving birth to a low-birth-weight baby of having a successful pregnancy. What these cuts mean, and the cuts in the Committee on Appropriations last week, is that this year 100,000 pregnant women and newborn infants will not be allowed to participate in this program that has had dramatic success in helping the brain development of these children, in helping carry these fetuses to term, and having healthy pregnancies.

That is what the Republicans' contract wants to do. That is what Speaker GINGRICH instructed the Committee on Education and Labor to do. Many of those Republicans privately were saying they hate to do this, this should not be done, they know it is wrong, but this is what the contract calls for. They have a greater allegiance to the contract, a public relations stunt drawn up by a pollster, than they do to America's children and to the pregnant women of this country that run the risk of having a pregnancy go wrong and to have to suffer all that that means.

What we are trying to assure with the Women, Infants, and Children Program is that these pregnant women will have the same joy I had at the birth of my two sons, the same joy that I had at the birth of my granddaughter; a healthy pregnancy and the kind of care that a woman needs before she delivers that birth, so that she can experience that joy, so that family can have that, and not have to experience the sadness of having a low-birth-

weight baby and the critical care that must be delivered in the intensive care and the neonatal intensive care units of our hospitals around this country.

Yet we see that those are the ones that the Gingrich Republicans have focused in on like a laser. They went immediately to those programs to cut that out. Out of the child nutrition programs and the WIC programs, we see over \$7 billion over the next 5 years being taken out of those programs. This year we see \$25 million directly taken out of the Women, Infants, and Children Program. Surely—surely the voters of America, the Republicans of America, do not believe that the first efforts in trying to balance the budget should be on the backs of these poor children, of these women at risk in their pregnancies, and of these newborn infants that are struggling, struggling to hold on to life, because we were not able to give them the attention during the pregnancy that we should have.

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Surely that is not what this is all about. Nor should it be allowed to stand. People should call their Members of Congress and tell them that they want this 20-year program of success maintained. We are talking about \$1.50 a day during the term of that pregnancy. That should not be on the chopping block out of humanity and out of caring for these children and for these pregnant women.

"THE PROJECT"

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DICKEY). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 1995, the gentleman from Kentucky [Mr. WHITFIELD] is recognized during morning business for 5 minutes.

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great concern about an article which appeared in Sunday's Washington Post. Since I read articles in most newspapers with great skepticism, I hope that facts set out in this article are not true.

According to the article in the Washington Post, a prominent Democratic Congressman at a recent Washington dinner party enthusiastically discussed what he referred to as "The Project"—a coordinated, calculated effort designed to politically destroy Speaker NEWT GINGRICH.

A week later, another Member of the Democratic Party, in a keynote address to a party convention in Boca Raton, disclosed that the House Democratic leadership had embarked on a day-by-day plan to investigate the House Speaker, harass the Speaker, and drive him from office.

According to the article, members of the Democratic leadership in the House meet on a weekly basis for this purpose. Mr. GEPHARDT is represented at the meetings and the White House is also kept informed.

The Democratic National Committee also publishes a weekly "Newt Gram" trashing the Speaker.

Two senior liberal Democratic Members of Congress—not a part of "The Project"; that is, Newt bashing—said "Our party attacks GINGRICH because we don't have anything else to say."

If it is true, what a tragedy—the National Democratic Party and its leaders deliberately working on "The Project" to destroy another political leader.

Our great Nation faces many serious issues crying out for a solution. It is almost incomprehensible that a handful of Democratic leaders would be consumed with such a destructive compulsion for revenge.

It is not surprising that in so many issues we have debated on this floor during the last month that a handful of Democrats have used similar tactics to polarize America. Pitting the poor versus the middle class—and the middle class versus wealthy members of our society—in effect using scare tactics.

We are all Americans and we must develop solutions that will benefit our entire society not just one part of our society. The American people not only deserve but demand that Members of Congress devote their time and energy trying to solve very serious national issues instead of trying to destroy another political leader because they do not agree with his political philosophy.

The election box is the proper place to decide philosophical differences, not some sinister plan referred to as "The Project."

EFFECTS OF THE CONTRACT WITH AMERICA ON WOMEN AND CHILDREN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 1995, the gentleman from Texas [Mr. GENE GREEN] is recognized during morning business for 5 minutes.

(Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous matter.)

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman's comments, but let us talk issues instead of speak personality.

When the Republicans talked about the contract for America, they did not tell anyone it would be women and children first. The first round of cuts were in the school breakfast and lunch programs. The second round of cuts include funding for safe and drug-free schools and the summer jobs program.

The Speaker may not believe liberals and even call some of us liars. This report that I will insert in the RECORD from the Houston Post talked about the "foes are lying about children." He says they are lying this last weekend.

Well, I am a Member from Texas. I am not lying about what my Texas State agency and my school district told me about the school lunch and breakfast program.

We would sustain a cut of almost 4 percent for our lunch and breakfast programs. I would hope we could tone down the rhetoric and talk about issues. I share the concern of my colleague who just spoke.

Again, we could see a definite cut of 4 percent in our Texas program and a half-million dollars in the Houston independent school district, the largest school district in the State of Texas.

The school breakfast and lunch programs, as estimated by the Texas Education Agency, will lose for the children of Texas \$261 million in 1996. On the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities, we tried to strike the nutrition programs from the Republican reform bill, but we were outvoted on a party line vote by the Republican majority. I will go to that in a few minutes. Let us look at what this new amended contract for America talks about, not only cutting children nutrition programs and the WIC Program. Let us see now; we are having \$11 million for two new executive airplanes for the Army that they did not request, \$20 million more for a new runway for a base that is on the base closure commission list, a million dollars for a bike trail in North Miami Beach.

One thing that is apparent in this new amended Contract With America, there is no clause that our children will have a hot nutritious meal or a clause that our children will have a safe and drug-free school or that our children may have a summer youth job program.

Let me continue with the children's nutrition. A TV consumer reporter in Houston just last night said that it took the Republican majority 40 years to gain control of the House but only took them 40 days to cut food to children. The school-based nutrition grant program overall funding would be \$104 million less in fiscal year 1996; \$101.3 billion would be transferred out of the block grant in 1996 for nonfood programs, which would compromise the health of children.

The school-based nutrition block grant would eliminate the standards that guarantee America's children access to healthy meals.

There was an amendment adopted in the committee last week that said for the first year the States can all come up with 50 nutritional grant programs, but at the end of that year there would be some national standards. Well, we already have some national standards that apply whether you are in Texas or New York or California. We are building in additional costs into this program by having 50 States to develop their nutrition plans and then have to comply with some national standards.

The new school-based nutrition block grant would not respond to recessions or recoveries. If this bill had been enacted in 1989, it would have resulted in the 70-percent reduction in funding for school meals in 1994 alone. Between 1990 and 1994, the number of free lunches served to low-income children